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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.



COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR.

29 June 1951

SUBJECT

Resistance and Economic Conditions in Albania

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Though the Albanian people live in a state of despair and poverty, resistance, which is developing throughout the country against the Communist leaders, has not yet assumed the proportions of an organized revolt.

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in the district of Korce, active resistance is extremely strong in that Mohammedan area, as well as in the northern regions of the country where the population is predominantly Catholic.

- 2. Gun fights and other incidents of disorder are frequent in all parts of the country. Special "flying" tribunals are sent to the location of an incident and summarily render a verdict on the spot.
- 3. Another informant states that no symptoms of an organized revolt exist and that furthermore such a revolt is not considered probable. Some of the more educated Albanians are stanch Rightists, but the mass of the people do not think in terms of a political program, except for being anti-Communist.
- 4. The above informant states that the Communists in Albania have deprived their country of foodstuffs and other goods. The peasants live only on what they have been able to hide from the State officials in charge of collecting last year's very poor crop. The peasants keep in their houses only enough food for two or three days, replenishing when necessary from reserves concealed in the mountains.
- 5. In the villages the shops are almost empty; occasionally a little salt or kerosene is available. In the district of Korce, whenever a shipment of food or other goods arrives, local authorities divide it into two parts, one part of which they distribute to the collective farms; the rest they keep for themselves and Communist Party members. Nothing is left for the populace.
- 6. The peasants appear well enough dressed as they have made clothes from the skins of their farm animals; in the cities, however, the people have little clothing.
- 7. The prospects for a good crop this year are reported to be excellent.

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